

DEATH HALTS FIGHT ON \$3,000,000 WILL

Oscar E. Thomas Sought Samuel Kraus Estate for His Wife.

FORGERY CHARGE MADE

Lawyer. Now Dead, Was Under Fire in Substitution of Page in Testament.

NEPHEW CONTESTS CLAIM

Denies His Unmarried Uncle, Aged 89, Was Father of Mrs. Thomas.

The efforts of Oscar E. Thomas, lawyer, to obtain for his wife the \$3,000,000 estate of Samuel Kraus, vice-president of the Eagle Pencil Company, have been halted by his death. In a referee's report, filed September 7 by John G. Saxe, Mr. Thomas was accused of substituting a page in the original Kraus will, and it was said that the substituted page—page 1—contained the clauses that gave Mrs. Thomas control over virtually the entire Kraus fortune. Mrs. Thomas claimed to be a daughter of Kraus, and he never denied her contention.

Thomas died suddenly in his home, at 350 West Eighty-eighth street, on Thanksgiving Day. A formal investigation of the case was made by Dr. George Hohmann, assistant medical examiner. His inquiry developed that Mr. Thomas had been a sufferer from heart disease, and that he was attended from time to time by Dr. W. Lee Kirschner of 425 West End avenue.

In spite of the reports of a death from natural causes, an autopsy was performed yesterday by Dr. Norris, Chief Medical Examiner, assisted by Dr. Hohmann. This was done at the order of Detective Gonzales, of the District Attorney's staff. District Attorney Swann acted at the request of Louis Posner, who is associated with the law firm of Jonas & Neuberger and Adolph Feldblum in the contest over the alleged will.

The autopsy proved that Thomas died of heart disease. This was made known last night and it was said at that time that a chemical analysis had been made of the stomach, the results of which are to be announced to-day.

It is expected that Surrogate Foley's report on the referee's findings will be filed to-day. In the event it upholds the charge that the first page of the Kraus will as filed is a substitute further proceedings may be taken.

Nothing ever has been made public concerning the investigation that resulted in the decision that a forged first page of the will was offered in court. Kraus died last January in his home, 411 West End avenue, in his eighty-ninth year. He was unmarried. Mrs. Thomas claims to be his daughter by Mary G. Brummell, one of his employees. Her claim to the estate has been contested by Bert Kraus, a nephew, of 728 Quincy street, Brooklyn, who denies that Mrs. Thomas is Kraus's daughter.

VOTES UNIFIED AUSTRALIA.

MELBOURNE, Nov. 27.—The Interstate Labor Conference has terminated its proceedings by adopting a proposal of Premier Theodore of Queensland in favor of making the Commonwealth the supreme governing authority of Australia with unlimited powers. States to have only such functions as the Commonwealth confers, and the Commonwealth to have the right to create new States. The scheme, which is a drastic form of unification, provides for the abolition of the Senate, the vesting of the final jurisdiction in all cases in the high court, and disallowing the acceptance of imperial honors in any circumstances by any Australian citizen.

DETECTIVE'S NEW HUSBAND IS HER OWN SECRET AFFAIR

Mrs. Isabella Goodwin, Only Woman Holding First Grade Position on New York Force, Becomes Mrs. Oscar A. Seaholm.

Mrs. Isabella Goodwin, the only woman in the police department who holds the rank of detective, first grade, has changed her name again, as she frequently has in the past, but this time it is not for police reasons.

It became known yesterday that Mrs. Goodwin had been married quietly about two weeks ago to Oscar A. Seaholm. The fact of the marriage is known to some of her friends and other policewomen of the Women's Precinct in West Thirty-seventh street, but Mrs. Goodwin is not communicative concerning Mr. Seaholm or about the time and place of the ceremony.

"I consider it a personal matter and don't intend to say anything about it," she said yesterday at her home at 165 Hicks street, Brooklyn. "Why should any one care whether I have married or not?"

The marriage of Mrs. Goodwin—she will continue to be known thus in the department—will not prevent her from pursuing her active career as detective and assistant to Mrs. George W. Loft, Special Deputy Commissioner in charge of the Women's Precinct. There is many a six foot detective with a gun on his hip who does less valuable work for his \$3,300 a year than Mrs. Goodwin, a slight, quick moving little woman, whose brain more than keeps pace with her body.

DRAGGED 2 BLOCKS, COP STOPS RUNAWAY

Falls but Holds Bridle and Halts Horse Attached to Milk Wagon.

A runaway horse attached to a wagon of the Sheffield Farms Company, dragged Patrolman Cornelius O'Connor of the East Sixty-seventh street station, two blocks in West End avenue, yesterday. Several persons, with umbrellas held close over their heads, started to cross in front of the horse, but O'Connor's shouts warned them in time.

O'Connor was guarding the wagon, and was on the driver's seat at West End avenue and Eighty-fourth street while the driver was making a delivery, when the horse took fright at a motor truck and dashed southward. O'Connor seized the reins, but could not check the horse, and then climbing out on a hill grasped the bridle. He fell, but hung on to the bridle for two blocks.

Becoming frightened in Moshulu Parkway, The Bronx, a horse drawing a Borden's Farm Products Company wagon ran away while the driver was out of the wagon, and made a quick trip to 240th street and Perry avenue, milk cans and bottles tumbling out as the wagon careened.

At that point, a Webster avenue surface car crossed the horse's path, and the animal having no time to swerve, crashed into it. The wagon was smashed and several passengers in the car were knocked down. The horse escaped without serious injury.

PEACEMAKER SHOT BY HIS LANDLORD

Told Latter to Cease Quarrelling With Wife.

Attempting to play the role of peacemaker in a bit of domestic discord between Mr. and Mrs. George Lewis of 303 Kosciuszko street, Brooklyn, with whom he roomed, Livingston Griffin was shot yesterday forenoon. He was taken to Beth Moses Hospital in a serious condition. Lewis was arrested, charged with the shooting. It is said that he confessed and visited the hospital to ask forgiveness of the wounded man.

According to the police, Griffin was awakened yesterday morning by quarrelling between the couple. He went to the dining room to investigate, and while he stood in the door Lewis, it is alleged, drew a revolver and asked what was wanted. Griffin replied he would like to see the quarrelling end. When he stepped forward, as if to interpose, Lewis is alleged to have discharged his revolver.

HOLDING UMBRELLA, KILLED BY A MOTOR

Aged Man, Seeking Protection From Rain, Struck at Crossing.

Joseph Mondra, aged 75, started to cross Grand street, at Rodney street, Brooklyn, yesterday holding an umbrella low over his head because of wind and rain, and was struck and killed by an automobile. He lived at 206 Manhattan avenue, Brooklyn. The driver was John Sniebel, 231 Eightieth street.

David Selig, aged 65, of 52 East 103d street, was struck by an automobile in Madison avenue and received hip and head bruises. He was taken to Mount Sinai Hospital.

Frank McDonald of 442 West Fifty-sixth street was run down at Eighth street and Second street. His collar bone was broken.

The right arm of Mrs. Frances Gray, aged 52, of 301 Grant avenue, The Bronx, was broken when she fell after being struck by a taxicab. She was taken to Lincoln Hospital.

After a chase by automobile from Yonkers to Irvington, about eight miles, two Yonkers policemen arrested James Britt, chauffeur for T. Harold Stern of 255 West Eighty-fourth street, who has a country home at Tarrytown. Charged with failing to report an accident and fleeing, he was held in \$1,000 bail. Britt was alone in the automobile, which, according to the police, he had taken out Saturday night without his employer's permission. Mr. Stern, when notified, asked that the chauffeur be held.

Britt early yesterday, it was alleged, ran down Charles Rosenberg of 153 Ashburton avenue, Yonkers, on the Albany Post Road in Yonkers. Rosenberg was taken to Yonkers hospital with head injuries, but was not seriously hurt. Several hours later Sergeant William Higgins and Patrolman George Monks saw a car pass which they said was the same that struck Rosenberg. They jumped into another car and went in pursuit.

Joseph Dempsey of 530 West Forty-fourth street, driver of an automobile that ran down Robert E. Moore, an attorney, of 31 West Ninety-sixth street, Saturday night, was charged yesterday in West Side Court with homicide and was held in \$2,500 bail for examination. Mr. Moore died in Reconstruction Hospital.

STRAUS'S NAME FOR SCHOOL.

Harry H. Schlacht, president of the Downtown Chamber of Commerce, appealed yesterday to Mayor Hylan and William L. Ettlinger, Superintendent of the Board of Education, urging the naming of an East Side school now in the course of construction in honor of Nathan Straus. Mr. Schlacht referred to Mr. Straus as "America's foremost humanitarian."

DRUG ADDICT LIVES BY SELLING BLOOD

Five Transfusion Patients May Have Received Fluid Containing 'Dope.'

A charge of possessing narcotics was made last night against James Milo, 27, who was taken to Police Headquarters from Memorial Hotel, 225 Bowery. According to Dr. Carleton Simon, Special Deputy Commissioner in charge of the narcotic squad, Milo's only means of livelihood consisted in selling his blood in transfusion operations. Dr. Simon said the man is an addict and that in at least five cases in which he contributed quantities of blood, the patients received fluid "that may have contained drug."

There is no way of determining this point, he explained, because the presence of drug in the blood never has been detected by research. Milo, a big, upstanding man with florid face and great strength, was arrested by Detectives Sells and Boylan of Dr. Simon's staff. Dr. Simon said the man made no resistance, but handed over three phials containing drug and an eye dropper and safety pin, the last named articles forming a homemade hypodermic syringe. The Deputy Commissioner said without funds.

Lengthy questioning, Dr. Simon said, brought out the information that Milo has been selling his blood for three months. He has been giving his blood in operations for several years, he told Dr. Simon. He said he has contributed in twenty-five hospitals and private transfusions in the last year. Five of these, Dr. Simon said the prisoner told him, took place since he began to use drugs.

As he talked to Dr. Simon, Milo bared an arm that was a mass of scars. Again and again, it was proved by the scars, surgeons have opened the artery used in transfusion. Milo said he understood his blood tested "high," and that it was for this reason that he got top prices for it. He said he received from \$35 to \$50 a transfusion. On at least one occasion, it was said, the man gave his blood for nothing when he learned the patient was without funds.

Milo had a little leather covered memorandum book to prove his statements about the various transfusions. The entries were marked "20 cc." or "25 cc." according to the number of cubic centimeters he gave, and following the entries were the names of the physicians in charge of the cases.

To verify the man's statements further, Dr. Carleton telephoned to three of the physicians listed as having supervised transfusions in which Milo was the donor in the last three months. These doctors, Dr. Simon said, verified every statement Milo made. One of them, according to Dr. Simon, gave information that may lead to an important discovery connected with the detection of narcotics in the blood of an addict.

This physician, said the Deputy Commissioner, related the story of a transfusion on a man suffering from pernicious anemia. The operation was performed last Tuesday. The Unger method of transfusion was used. Milo's blood passing into a receptacle before being injected into the patient.

The physician was surprised to see Milo, who had become almost a hanger-on of operating rooms, collapse suddenly and show symptoms of a weak heart. While the man was being revived, Dr. Simon said in repeating his conversation with the physician, the latter noticed that his patient was apparently gaining strength. He continued to gain strength and Milo recovered.

A strange development of the operation, Dr. Simon said he was told by the physician was a continued high temperature of the patient. Instead of mounting to 101 degrees and subsiding to normal after two hours, as is usual, the man's temperature rose to 104 and then 105 degrees and continued fluctuating between those two points for two days. The patient has steadily improved, however.

3 DEAD, 60 HURT IN THEATRE FIRE PANIC

Continued from First Page.

Wiser said that he thought the audience at the Rialto to-night had more Yale men in it than usual, on account of the popularity of the picture.

One of the seriously hurt in the New Haven Hospital is Miss Mabel Moran of 15 Bank street, Derby, Conn. Another is Allen Keith, a Yale student, of Southport, Conn. Five other Yale students are in the New Haven Hospital, but are not seriously hurt. They are Louis A. Lincoln of Mansfield, Mass.; Gordon Renner of Cincinnati; Norman F. Hook of Pottsville, Pa.; Hale E. Cullom of Nashville, Tenn.; Walter Crafts of Montreal, Grace Hospital had listed as injured two Yale students, P. F. Boothle of Spokane, Wash., and W. Nicklas, address unknown. One of the most seriously hurt in this hospital is Harry Floyd of New Haven.

At the Yale Infirmary it was said that several students had reported there for treatment for burns and bruises and cuts. Their names were given as D. A. Cooke, Honolulu; Stanley M. Cooper, John E. Coste, Jr., of Little Rock, Ark.; John G. Easton, V. B. Lamb and C. P. Moore, addresses unknown.

Among those who told of their experiences during the fire was Louis Goodman of New Haven, who went to the theatre with Everett Case and Harry Asher. Goodman said that the flames swept through the theatre almost in a twinkling.

"I do not know what started the fire," said Goodman. "A woman had finished singing and the film was being shown. I saw a little smoke and a light, which I thought had something to do with the production. Then I saw a piece of blazing material fall from the top of the stage. It was small, but it was followed almost at once by a burst of fire. The projector box was in the balcony close by where I sat, so the fire did not come from that. Some one yelled 'Fire!' Instantly people got up and started for the main exit, without seeming to try to get to those on the sides. Then I saw a man pick up a hat and then slowly walked down the stairs. At the foot I was thrown down, and others were piled upon me. I began to lose my breath and then suddenly the load lighted off by brave men who had been helping people out. The front entrance was clear. I regained my feet and ran back to be of aid."

"There was a great heap of hats and coats inside the door, and I clawed over these, thinking that some one might be underneath. The flames were sweeping through the theatre and I ran out. I escaped with burns and cuts on my face and loss of my hat. It did not seem to me that many sitting in the front seats could have got out."

Morris Kennedy, who was the motion picture operator, said that he had no idea at all how the fire started. Kennedy declared that as soon as he saw smoke, he stopped the picture and threw all of the switches within reach so that he could turn on as many lights as possible, and left his booth. He escaped to the street without being injured.

The authorities have evolved three theories that might account for the fire, but have no direct evidence to substantiate either. One is that the flames were caused by the incense which burned in pots on the stage during the prologue, another that there was an explosion of some sort in the cellar, and the third is that the fire started from crossed electric wires.

The Rialto Theatre was formerly College Street Hall, and before that it was the Plymouth Congregational Church. Yale University used the hall for many years as a place for lecture courses and the music department of the university gave concerts in it. The graduation exercises of the medical department were also held there. It was remodeled by former Senator Harry Leonard, who leased it to Black's New England Synchro Circuit, which began the operation of a motion picture house.

BANDIT GANG ELUDES NET IN JERSEY CITY

Whole Reserve Force Out After Three Places Are Held Up and Man Is Shot.

Almost every policeman on reserve in Jersey City was ordered out at midnight Saturday to run down a gang of six bandits, who roamed in the vicinity of the Pennsylvania Railroad line, holding up saloons and other stores remaining open late. In one place they shot a man through the head. The bandits disappeared when the police were called out in force. None had been caught up to last night, although two men were being held on suspicion.

Anthony Giglio's cafe at 267 Railroad avenue was the first place held up. Two of the gang, the biggest of the six, remained at the door on guard while the others, each armed with an automatic pistol, stepped inside and ordered the seven customers to stand against the wall. The robbers gathered up a quantity of jewelry, estimated as worth from \$500 to \$1,000, a one way steamship ticket to Italy and \$500 in bills. They left, threatening to kill any one who reported the robbery to the police.

One man who was robbed in Giglio's went to find a policeman ten minutes after the bandits left. Two blocks away he met Capt. Daniel Casey, commanding the night roving squad. While relating the night roving squad, the men went to what happened a woman's scream was heard and Capt. Casey and half a dozen of his men, following up the sound,

finally reached the saloon of Michael Angelo at 74 Coigate street. Angelo's jaw had been shot away when he tried to overpower one robber. He also had been shot through the leg. The robbers took \$22 and a watch from him.

The third robbery was in a barber shop owned by Frank Tiscano at 31 Emerson avenue. Thirty dollars and a quantity of jewelry were taken. By that time the police were closing in on the gang and the men separated.

In the search for the bandits the police halted an automobile containing four men that was being driven slowly along Hudson Boulevard. The passengers identified themselves satisfactorily, exhibiting papers that proved they were members of a committee to raise money for the defence of Sacco and Vanzetti, the South Braintree, Mass., murderers. The men detained on suspicion are Joseph Leonetti of 1460 Liberty street and Rocco Zappa of 1463 Newark street, Jersey City.

Three armed men held up the cafe of John Smith at 342 St. Ann's avenue. The robbers, Friday night and robbed Smith and others of \$500 in jewels and money. It became known yesterday. Detectives have been searching for the robbers since.

The robbers arrived at the cafe in an automobile, dismissing it before entering the place. Smith thought the men were customers until one reached across the bar to tear off the proprietor's necktie. In which was a \$300 diamond stickpin. The robbers then drew pistols and ordered the half dozen men present to produce all money and jewels. The culprits escaped by separating.

UNKNOWN DIES IN CHURCH.

Twelve hours after an unidentified man had fallen dead in St. Theresa's Roman Catholic Church, Clason avenue and Sterling place, Brooklyn, yesterday morning, the body was still unclaimed last night in the Kings county morgue. He was about 60 years old.

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The poor-little-rich Lady

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A few minutes later she said,

"My troubles seem to come all in a heap. Last week a Trustee of my Uncle P's estate died. Originally there were three Trustees. They went one by one. Then Cousin L was appointed and he died. Now the fifth is gone and I am left. Of course, someone else must be appointed—but who will it be, I wonder?"

"I suppose my quarterly check will be delayed. You can see I am no business woman. But really, isn't this a complication for a woman in my situation to face?"

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